REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Matsui. In the Advisory Action dated December 28, 2000, the Examiner commented on the argument advanced by applicant, stating that Matsui discloses an anisotropic conductive layer (10 and 11) spanning across the length of a base (3). In part in response thereto, claim 1 is amended to narrow its scope and an explanatory sentence is added to the specification.

The purpose of the amendment is to more narrowly define the invention by limiting the "terminal parts" to be distributed not evenly or uniformly but in clusters. Please note that this is already shown in Figs. 1 and 4 and hence this additional limitation does not introduce any new matter. Indeed, the amendment in the specification serves only to point out by words what was already disclosed at the time of the initial filing of the application. Thus, the amendment in the specification is believed enterable.

Claim 1 is herein amended to limit the method as being applicable only to target surfaces having terminal parts formed in clusters such that those within a same one of the plurality of terminal-forming areas are closer than those belonging to different ones of these terminal-forming areas. In the past, when a target surface was of this type, the practice was to use separate layers to cover these terminal-forming areas separately. Matsui discloses terminal parts which are evenly distributed and hence does not teach what to do in the case of terminal parts which are formed in clusters. In other words, Matsui cannot predicate a rejection of claim 1 even on the obviousness ground, much less on the anticipation ground.

It is therefore believed that the instant Amendment is totally responsive to the aforementioned Final Office Action as well as to the Advisory Action and hence that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 10, 2001

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